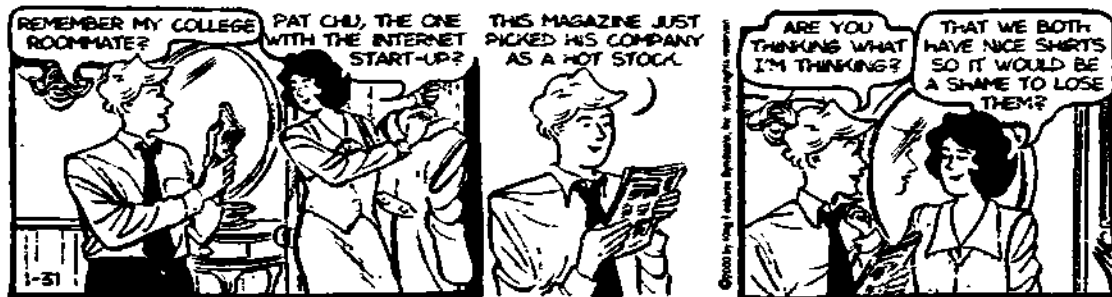


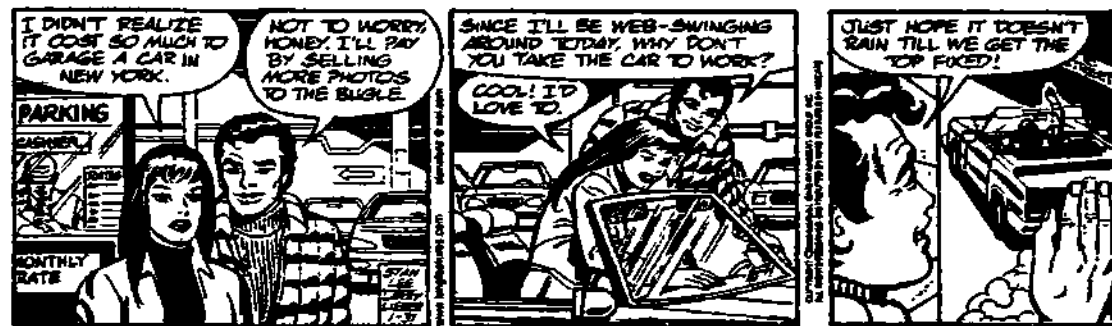
BLONDIE



SALLY FORTH



THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



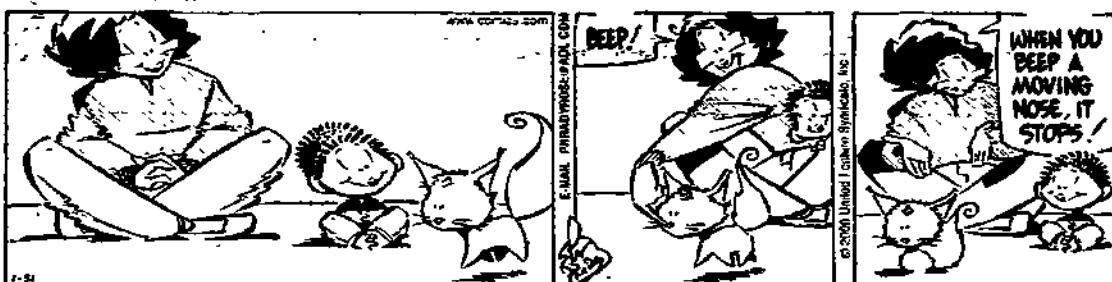
9 CHICKWEED LANE



ANDY CAPP



ROSE IS ROSE



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



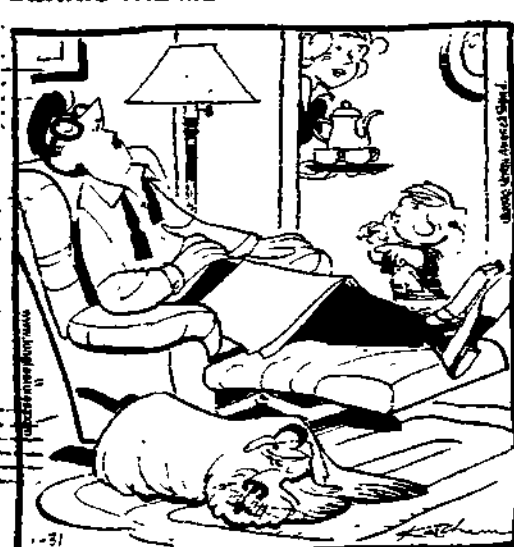
MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM



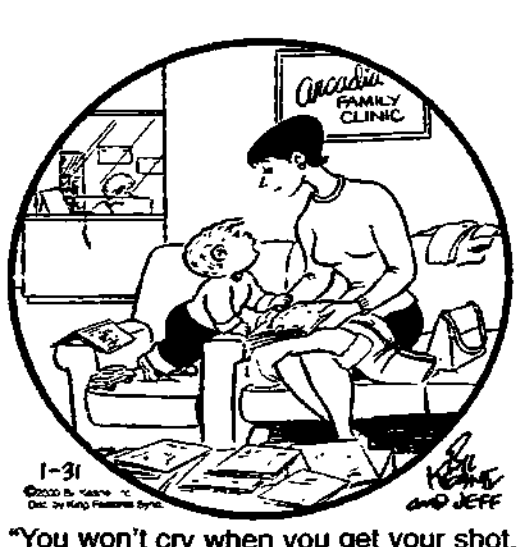
DILBERT



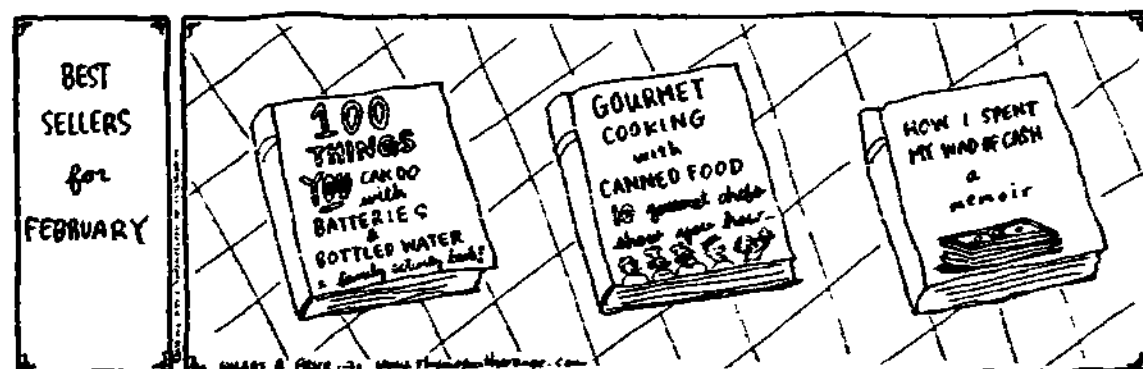
DENNIS THE MENACE



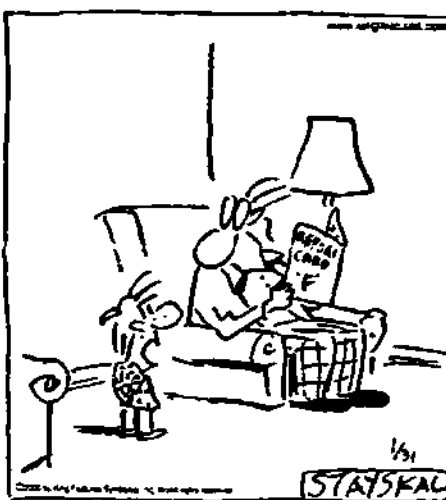
FAMILY CIRCUS



RHYMES WITH ORANGE



RALPH



Today's Birthdays

Actor John Agar is 79. Author Norman Mailer is 77. Actress Jean Simmons is 71. Baseball Hall-of-Famer Ernie Banks is 69. Composer Philip Glass is 63. Actress Suzanne Pleshette is 63. Actor Stuart Margolin is 60. House Minority Leader Richard A. Gephardt (D-Mo.) is 59. Baseball Hall-of-Famer Nolan Ryan is 53. Singer Phil Collins is 49. Singer KC (KC and the Sunshine Band) is 49.

I NEED HELP



SCRABBLE

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P	C	T	R	T	O	E	Double Word Score
O	T	E	H	R	B	R	RACK 1
H	E	U	S	T	O	M	Triple Word Score
B	L	A	U	T	N	E	2nd Letter Triple

PAR SCORE 140-200
by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2 to 7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in The Official Scrabble Players Dictionary (Merrill-Webster) and CSW Official Scrabble Words (Chambers). JUDG'S SOLUTION TOMORROW 1-31-00

For solution, see Classified.

WORD SLEUTH

FROM A TO Z OR Z TO A

L Z O L I F C Z W T Q N K I F
C Z T W U A R P M J A H E C Z
X U S I Q N I Z L J L G E C Z
X V T R L P E N N L C I H E C
A Y W Z A R A G O Z A M B I A
V T R P A T E Z N C T L K I I
G E C V B V Z T X W R U S A S
R P L O M L H J S I A I R Y
G A E D B A Y A X U Z R Z B O
W U Z T I W H C S U A D L E Z
T S Q P O A Y E Z Z U B A Z N

Saturday's unlisted clue: CATS

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.
Monday's unlisted clue hint: Old Prison Known As "The Rock"

Abuzz	Auschwitz	Zane	Zoya
Adz	Austerlitz	Zebra	Zirconia
Ahvaz	Zambia	Zelda	Zoysia
Alvarez	Zaragoza	Zeta	

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For solution, see Classified.

HOROSCOPE

For Tuesday, Feb. 1

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) This is a great day to get your ideas out into the open.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Be very careful not to get caught up in someone else's charm today.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) It might be time to take a relationship to the next level.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Your social and private lives might clash.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) No one is able to put you in a bad mood, Leo! Go out and have fun and forget about what anyone else has to say about it.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) Family obligations may interfere with professional tasks today.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Concentrate on finishing current projects before you take on more, Libra. Use your extra energy to go over all the fine details.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Something is too good to be true today.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Great surprises are waiting for you around every corner!

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) Things that don't seem possible are somehow within your reach.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) Look into taking a class or volunteering for a worthy cause.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) Problems may arise in the workplace today.

ACES

By Bobby Wolff

Follow today's example and see the difference between an average card player and a champion. An average player wins dummy's trump ace and cashes the king. Next, he leads a low diamond to his queen. When it wins, he leads a spade to dummy's jack, losing to East's queen. East switches to his club 10, and South's club queen loses to West's king. West returns his club jack to South's ace, and South draws the last trump with his jack. Since South knows where the diamond ace is, he leads a spade instead of a diamond. And instead of finessing, he cashes dummy's ace and king. When the suit doesn't break and no 10 appears, South has no 10th winner, and the game goes one down. A champion plays the same to the first three tricks. However, after his diamond queen wins, he cashes his trump jack and cashes dummy's top spades. East's queen drops obligingly, giving South a finessing position over West's 10. This gives South an overtrick instead of an undertrick for a vulnerable game swing. Since dummy has the nine of spades, if the spade 10 or queen drops doubleton, he can claim his game (or overtrick). If neither honor appears, South retains the option of leading a third spade toward dummy's J-9. This cinches 10 winners unless East has Q-10-x-x; then no play works.

NORTH 6-31 A
 ♠ A K J 9
 ♥ A K Q 5
 ♦ K 7 4
 ♣ 2 3

WEST 10-6-4-2
 ♠ 9 8 6
 ♥ J 5 3
 ♦ K J 5

EAST Q-5
 ♠ 4 3
 ♥ A 10 8 6 2
 ♦ 10 8 5 4

SOUTH 3-7-3
 ♠ J 10 7 2
 ♥ Q 9
 ♦ A Q 6 2

Vulnerable: North-South
 Dealer: North
 The bidding:

North East South West
 1 ♠ Pass 1 ♥ Pass
 2 ♥ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
 3 ♠ Pass 3 ♥ Pass
 4 ♥ Pass 4 ♠ Pass
 5 ♠ Pass 5 ♥ Pass
 6 ♠ Pass 6 ♥ Pass
 7 ♠ Pass 7 ♥ Pass
 8 ♠ Pass 8 ♥ Pass
 9 ♠ Pass 9 ♥ Pass
 10 ♠ Pass 10 ♥ Pass
 11 ♠ Pass 11 ♥ Pass
 12 ♠ Pass 12 ♥ Pass
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N.Y. TIMES CROSSWORD

No. 1220

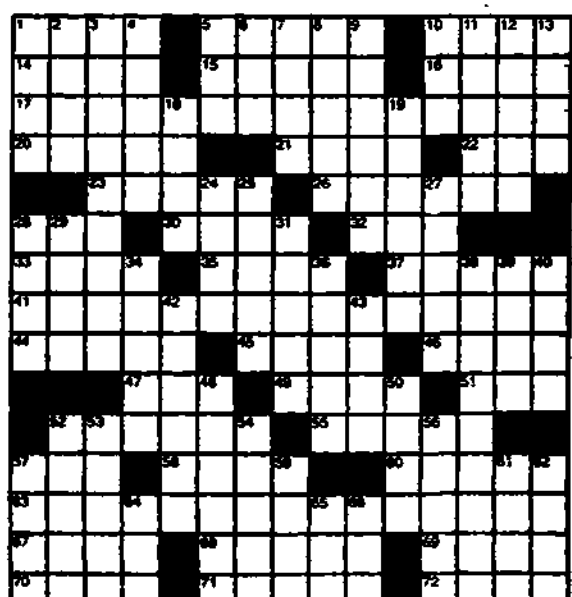
- ACROSS**
- Spit
 - Dish with beans
 - Trace of smoke
 - Luke Darth Vader
 - Former intl. airline
 - "I had no ..."
 - Cerium and erbium, e.g.
 - Map within a map
 - Bowl over
 - Old what's-name
 - Golf pitfalls
 - Mentally spaced out
 - Hawaii, e.g.: Abbr.
 - Statutes
 - Brit. recording giant
 - Nighttime twirler
 - Aloha gifts
 - Lucy's landlady
 - Neither large nor small-caliber guns
 - Watch secretly
 - Adult-to-be
 - Harvard rival
 - Rubber ducky's spot
 - Nutty
 - Moines, Iowa
 - "Pow! Right in the ..."
 - Green stuff
 - Newsman Koppel
 - Gave the once-over
 - Scottish inlets
 - Compliment from a Brit
 - Day vitamins
 - "Cool!"
 - Vegas numbers game
 - Belgrade native
 - Churchill Downs event
 - Aide: Abbr.

DOWN

- Ms. Gann of "Mr. Mom"
- "Terrible" czar
- Mrs. m the White House
- One on the lam
- Tax preparer, briefly
- One of two hardy followers
- Football stats: Abbr.
- Christine of "Chicago Hope"
- Protected, as from disease
- Sense of humor
- Boise's state
- Baseball commissioner Bud
- Skip a turn
- Catchall abbr.
- Tooth protector
- Date maker
- "No ..."
- "Easy"
- In an apt way
- Doctrines
- Big first for a baby
- Fathered

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

DISPATCHED ANPS
 ANNABELLE GAIT
 STATEFLAGS EDDA
 HOP SIN YINIER
 INPUT SCARDALE
 KELLER EGOMANIA
 IDEATE SOY TOT
 NEAT GEE
 APD RES ROMMEL
 PREMIERE SOMALI
 PERENNIAL DYLAN
 REAMED LOA DIG
 INTO EVANGELINE
 SEER RANGEROVER
 EDDY STEADINESS



Puzzle by Nancy Selman

- 34 They're a laugh a minute
 35 Cook, as clams
 36 Major nuisances
 37 Writer Stanley Gardner
 38 Cleaning cabinet supplies
 39 Brand-new
 40 The low-down
 41 Out of reach of
 42 Tatted
 43 Nancy Drew's creator Carolyn
 44 Time waster
 45 Actress Taylor of "The Nanny"
 46 Opa, Fla.
 47 Terrible time?
 48 Turtledove
 49 Christian Andersen
 50 Precocious
 51 Chemist's workplace
 52 Wagering locale, for short
 53 Myrna of "The Thin Man"

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone: 1-800-420-5656 (95¢ per minute). Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years. 1-888-7-ACROSS.